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THE FERRIOUS AND NON-FERRIOUS METAL SITUATION IN DENMARK (1940-1941)

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4 June 1940: German deliveries of iron and steel during the period 1 April 1940-31 July 1940 are to amount to about 20,000 tons. Additional quantities will be provided as needed for the filling of German orders.

In order to cope with the metal shortage, the Danish government is setting up a central office to enforce the necessary restrictions on ferrous and non-ferrous metal consumption in the building and metal-processing industries.

15 August 1940: The originally planned monthly export of 10 tons of Danish excelsior to Germany in exchange for aluminum is to be upped to 20 tons. Moreover, Denmark is to make a special effort to supply a quantity of 20 tons of excelsior monthly for a period of 10 months, and with the aluminum received in exchange is to manufacture 40,000 milk cans for Germany.

15 October 1940: A special allotment of 2,400 tons of steel for the third quarter of 1940 and of 5,000 tons for the fourth quarter of 1940 for shipbuilding purposes is expected greatly to relieve the supply problem for this industry. Six shipyards and two large wholesale houses are to receive the above amounts.

15 November 1940: Inasmuch as the ferrous and non-ferrous metal stocks in Denmark have been used for German armament contracts for some time, every day it becomes more urgent that accelerated deliveries to Denmark be made.

15 December 1940: Iron and steel shipments from Germany to Denmark are about 1,000 tons behind.

15 January 1941: There is difficulty in placing orders with Danish firms because the export price of German ferrous and non-ferrous metals is too high and because Danish stocks of these metals are too low. The shipment of iron and steel products is still inadequate.

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Danish stocks of non-ferrous metals (especially copper and aluminum) are so low and deliveries of these metals from Germany so slow that workers have had to be laid off and German Armed Forces orders turned down.

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5 March 1943: A new steel mill in the Frederiksvaerk at Esbjerg, Nordsjælland, was placed in operation on 1 December 1942. When operating at peak capacity, the mill will employ 200 workers, but at present only 120 workers are employed. It has a planned annual production of 40,000 tons of rolled steel by the Siemens-Martin process. Provisionally, sectional steel will be made from old scrap. Production during the period 1 December 1942 - 1 February 1943 amounted to 6,000 tons of sectional steel.

The reduction of the Danish iron allotment from 13,000 tons monthly to 5,000 tons for the first quarter of 1943 is bound to have unfavorable effects on the occupation troops.

There is a serious shortage of nails, as Danish industry has not received rolled wire for months.

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30 June 1943: The new Frederiksvaerk steel rolling mill has made numerous attempts to strip nails out of steel sheet, and a special machine has been ordered which, it is hoped, will soon begin to produce.

The steel needed by the Organization for Fertilization work was obtained directly from Germany.

The orders placed with Danish firms for the delivery of finished and rolled products were filled satisfactorily during the second quarter of 1943.

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30 October 1943: On 31 August 1943, German deliveries to Denmark of iron and steel were 15,714 tons behind, or a reduction by 1,117 tons of the backlog as of 31 July 1943.

Non-ferrous metal deliveries are 200 tons behind, having been reduced by 23 tons compared to backlog of 31 July 1943.

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- 200 kilograms of tin, 2,000 kilograms of lead, 3,000 kilograms of aluminum, and 5,000 kilograms of zinc were placed at the disposal of A/S Nordisk Kabelog Traadfabriker (Scandinavian Cable and Wire Factories, Inc), Copenhagen.

30 November 1943: German deliveries of iron and steel as of 30 September 1943 were 11,346 tons behind, the level as of 31 August 1943, having been reduced by 386 tons.

As of 30 September 1943, German deliveries of non-ferrous metals were 121 tons behind, the 31 August 1943 level having been reduced by 9 tons.

It is extremely difficult to cover the requirement of ferro-alloys, especially ferrochrome.

An emergency stock of 6 tons of ferrochrome has been set up for A/S Jernkontoret and 15 tons of ferromanganese for A/S varde staalvaerk; these stocks, however, cannot be touched without the permission of the "Justitsministeriet".

31 December 1943: As of 31 October 1943, German deliveries of iron and steel were 14,141 tons behind, a reduction of 1,165 tons compared to the level as of 30 September 1943.

As of 31 October 1943, German deliveries of non-ferrous metals were 125 tons behind, an increase of 4 tons over the backlog of the previous month.

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31 March 1944: Sufficient iron for fortification work has been available. As of 31 January 1944, the Germans were 14,550 tons behind in their deliveries of iron and steel, or 265 tons further behind than they were as of 31 December 1943.

As of 31 January 1944, the Germans were 153 tons behind in their non-ferrous metal deliveries to Denmark, or 45 tons less in arrears than on 31 December 1943.

30 April 1944: German deliveries of iron and steel were behind 12,933 tons as of 29 February 1944, or 1,617 tons less in arrears than

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on 31 January 1944.

The Germans were 206 tons behind in their non-ferrous metal deliveries to Denmark on 29 February 1944, or 54 tons further behind than in the previous month.

31 May 1944: German deliveries of iron and steel were behind 11,883 tons as of 31 March 1944, or 37 tons less in arrears than in the previous month.

An additional "tiding-over" quantity of 775 tons of ferrous metal was allocated.

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30 June 1944: The Germans were 12,376 tons of iron and steel behind in their deliveries to Denmark as of 30 April 1944, or 223 tons further behind than on 31 March 1944.

The Germans were 127 tons behind in their deliveries of non-ferrous metals to Denmark as of 30 April 1944, or 26 tons further behind than they were on 31 March 1944.

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31 August 1944: German deliveries of iron and steel were behind 11,496 tons as of 30 June 1944, or 1,500 tons less in arrears than on 31 May 1944.

The Germans were 194 tons behind in their non-ferrous metal shipments to Denmark on 30 June 1944, or 7 tons further behind than in the previous month.

In order to admit the repair of sabotaged Danish plants, a special allocation of 100 tons of alloyed steel (including 20 tons of fine plate) were released.

30 September 1944: German deliveries of iron and steel to Denmark as of 31 July 1944 were 11,433 tons behind, or 533 tons less in arrears than in the previous month.

German deliveries of non-ferrous metals to Denmark as of 31 July 1944 were 185 tons behind, or 9 tons less in arrears than in the previous month.

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